



1-17-02 A

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATIONS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

01/15/02 U.S. PTO  
1002 U.S. PTO  
01/15/02

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor: **Nabil L. Muhanna, M.D.**

Title: **INTERVERTEBRAL DISC PROSTHESIS AND METHODS OF IMPLANTATION**

Enclosed are:

4 sheets of drawings.  
 An assignment of the invention to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A certified copy of a \_\_\_\_\_ application.  
 Declaration For Patent Application

For:	Number Filed	Number Paid For	Number Extra	Rate	Total
Application				\$740.00/\$370.00	\$ 370.00
All Claims	25	-20	5	\$18.00 / \$9.00	\$ 45.00
Independent Claims	2	-3	0	\$84.00 / \$42.00	\$ 0.00
Assignment Filing Fee				\$40.00	\$ 0.00
Total Filing Fee:					\$ 415.00

A check in the amount of \$415.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.  
 Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.27, applicant hereby asserts small entity status.  
 The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the payment of the required fee(s) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0528.

Amend the specification by adding the following text after the title of the invention:  
CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of provisional application serial no. 60/262,974, dated January 17, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 15, 2002

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Docket No.: **M112 1100**

ATLANTA 291788v1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
NABIL L. MUHANNA, M.D. )

For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC PROTHESIS AND METHODS OF IMPLANTATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
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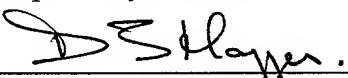
**REQUEST FOR NONPUBLICATION OF APPLICATION  
UNDER 35 USC § 122(b) [37 CFR § 1.213(a)]**

This request is being submitted with this application on filing.

It is requested that this application not be published under 35 USC § 122(b).

This is to certify that the invention disclosed in this application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Docket Number: **M112 1100**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
NABIL L. MUHANNA, M.D. )  
For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC PROTHESIS AND METHODS OF  
IMPLANTATION

## CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above case are the following documents:

Patent Application Transmittal  
Specification  
Claims – 1-25  
Abstract  
Drawings – Figs. 1-4B  
Declaration for Patent Application  
Request for Non-Publication  
Filing Fee - \$425.00 – Check#028200  
Return Postcard

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Docket No.: **M112 1100**

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I hereby certify that all correspondences listed above are being deposited for delivery to the above addressee, with the United States Postal Service "**EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE**" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below:

The envelope has been given U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee"  
Package #EL581019414US.

1-15-02  
Date

Suzanne Skinner  
(Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

Suzanne Skinner  
(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)